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APPROVED LIBRARY BINDER
CERTIFIED
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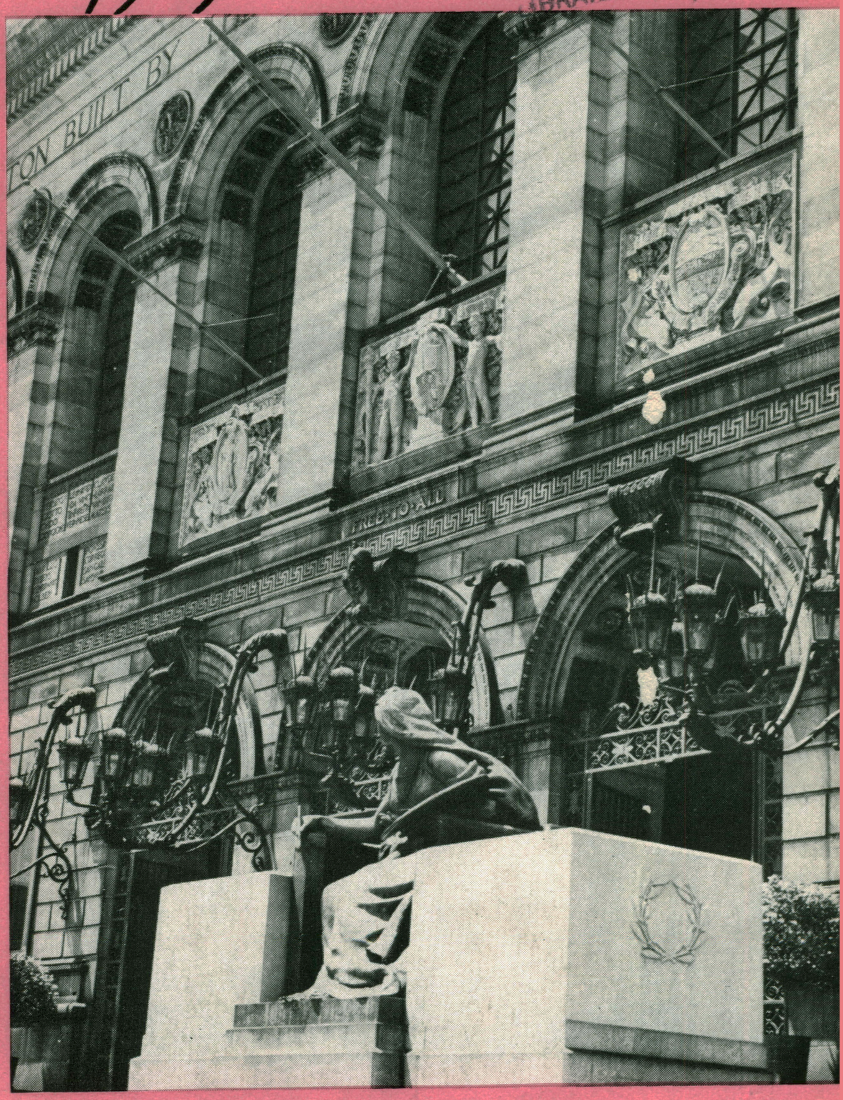
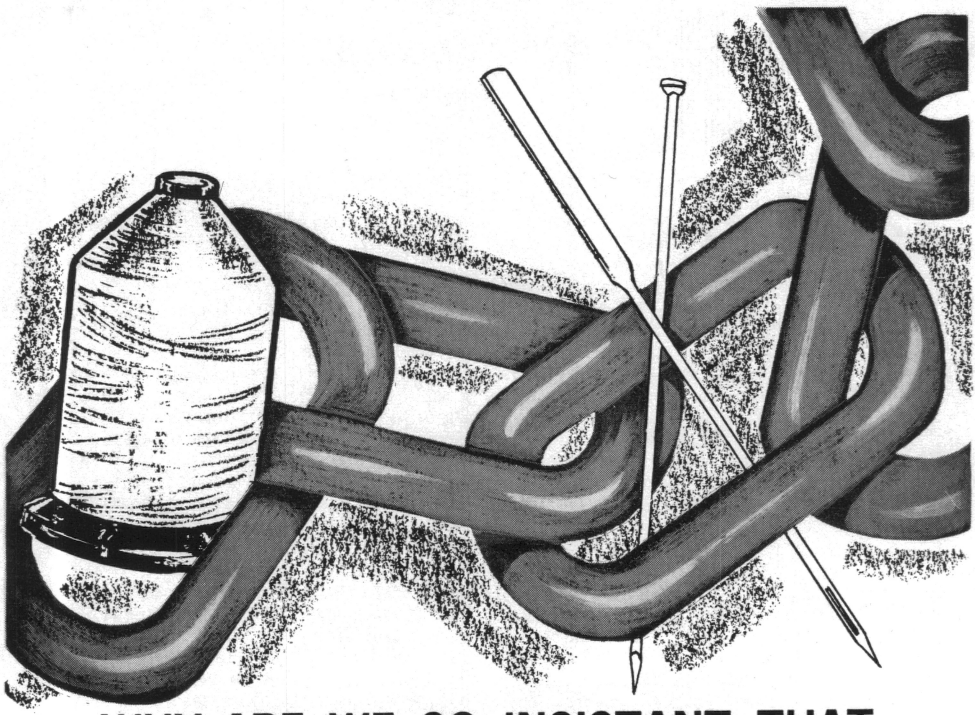


DETAILS OF FACADE—The seated female figure, in bronze, is sculptor Bela Pratt's conception of "Art." (The statue is balanced by a similar figure, representing "Science," on the other side of the main entrance.) Here one may note the entrance arches, the entrance lanterns, the seals of the Commonwealth, the Library, and the City of Boston (carved by Augustus St. Gaudens), the great windows with their deep reveals, and other details of the Central Library building's main façade.
(Photo—Courtesy of the Trustees of the Boston Public Library)



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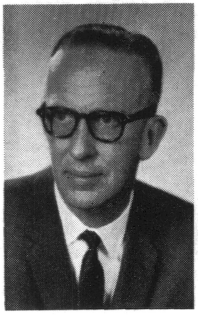
THE CHALLENGE OF OBJECTIVES

By Cornelius Wagenvoord, *President, Library Binding Institute*



Some years ago, I first had the privilege of serving as President of LBI, and as part of my official duties, had the pleasure of addressing the ALA Council.

At that time, our problems were very basic: binders were concerned with meeting the new specifications for library binding which the ALA-LBI Joint Committee had issued, and librarians were concerned with finding monies with which to buy library binding (and I might add for most everything else they needed).

In a sense, the passage of time has brought with it a peculiar recasting of the problem.

Certified Library Binders have so developed their product—library binding—and insured its adherence to quality specifications by an industry quality control program, warranties and a program of research, that it is comparatively easy for American libraries to get binding that meets their requirements. Buying library binding is almost a routine matter. All a library has to do is specify on the purchase order that the binding conform to the LBI Standard. This is true whether the purchase be of rebinding of worn volumes, binding of periodicals or prebound volumes. If the library uses a Certified Library Binder, his invoice will contain a warranty that the binding meets the Standard unless otherwise noted on the invoice.

This was the objective of the ALA Council, and it has been achieved. The great problem today is with publishers' library editions where the quality variance is so great in the absence of uniform specifications that no library really knows what it is getting by way of circulations or use per volume.

At the time I addressed the Council, our industry was largely primitive in its technology. Today, we are a highly mechanized industry and characterized by sophisticated electronic and hydraulic equipment. The use of such equipment has enabled us to absorb cost increases which would otherwise have to be passed on to libraries. The increase in the price of binding over the past several years has been less than half that of books or periodicals.

The significant fact is that all this is the through the Joint Committee the standard for library binding.

If time has solved the problem of adequate binding with respect to industry's capabilities, it has also to a large degree brought about conditions which indicate a solution to the libraries' ever constant struggle for adequate budgets. Our most precious national resource is our people. We are now engaged in a major effort to assure educational opportunities on a scale never before dreamed possible. The allocation of funds to libraries of all kinds paves the way for librarians to achieve their most fond aspiration—service to readers both of high quality and in adequate depth.

The emphasis must be on the acquisition of new books, but with it is a correlative responsibility to maintain this material for reader usability. It is in this area that Certified Library Binders can be of substantial help to librarians in planning the most efficient expenditure of funds. LBI has a very useful HANDBOOK* which contains in condensed form a wealth of helpful information on the subject, and is sponsoring a revision of the ALA-LBI Manual under the direction of Professor Maurice Tauber. We believe this will be the standard for libraries.

The year ahead promises to be exciting and full of challenge. The foundation has been established for the continued cooperation between our industry and the library profession which has generated so much progress. This is the assurance that the ever-expanding collections will be maintained for reader use.

*Available from your Certified Library Binder or LBI.

THE LIBRARY BINDER is sent without charge to Librarians, Trustees, Members of Library Associations and others interested in the Administration of Library Systems. Those not now receiving it may be placed on the mailing list by writing to Library Binding Institute.

If your name and address is incorrect, please make the correction on a postcard and send to LIBRARY BINDING INSTITUTE, 160 State Street, Boston, Mass.

THE BOOK OF THE FUTURE

By W. J. KIMBROUGH
Acting Chief Librarian, Lansing Public Library
Lansing, Michigan

In its September 3, 1965 issue, *Time* Magazine carried a 6-page illustrated story on the new libraries which are rapidly being built throughout the country. I cannot remember the last time a mass-circulation magazine did so fine a job in presenting the world of books and libraries in such an interesting manner.

However, within the article there were some hard, cold facts which weighed heavily with the many people who are concerned with the future of the book, if the resulting "Letters to the Editor" column is any barometer, not to mention the reactions subsequently received from friends in the library field and allied professions.

For those of us who work with books, the complexities of information storage and retrieval came as no surprise. We have been aware for some years that those creatures, the documentalists, were "out there somewhere," but too few of us really knew their function. As a result, some of us were shaken up by *Time's* story because we are not ready to admit that any problem exists.

The "problem," simply stated, is that so many books are being printed annually (in excess of 130,000 volumes in 1964 alone) that it is becoming virtually impossible to keep track of all the information contained in them. For the scholarly and technical material, by far the bulk of that being published, some kind of automation seems to be the only answer. One sophisticated plan along this line is Project Intercom, a retrieval system at present shared by 10 colleges, which are in the process of combining their libraries by use of computers. The outcome says *Time,* could be, "a network of bookless colleges, equipped with nothing but study booths, electric typewriters, and TV screens." *Time* often exaggerates, but usually to make a point. *Could* this be the book of the future? For some, undoubtedly yes. From all indications it seems inevitable that research libraries serving highly technical institutions will use this type of information storage. In fact, some forms of it are already in use.

Books on microfilm and microcards are widely accepted in all kinds of libraries today including school libraries. And yet, despite the vast savings in storage space that microfilm and microcards provide, it is still not enough to stem the avalanche of material by which librarians are confronted yearly. Storage in computer "brains" with reader "printouts" at the touch of a button may actually make future libraries literary automats.

But all of this will not make the book, as we now know it, obsolete; but rather it will serve to stimulate increased book production. Over the years several developments were supposed to "kill off" the book and reading, yet none have succeeded; and each of them in turn posed as much of a threat as "automation" does today.

In the early 1900's, for instance, the automobile was feared, and not by the National Safety Council for the reasons which we know so well today. Parents, teachers, and ministers shook their heads over the youth who went joy-riding in Mr. Ford's new-fangled contraptions, instead of indulging in that ever-popular Sunday afternoon pastime, reading. Even if this could have been taken seriously, it is fun to speculate how many people might have been forced back to the book if only to learn how to repair and maintain their gas-buggies. And just look at the mountain of material which has been published on the automobile since, not to mention all the travel books and magazines which roll off the presses annually, the result of which may at least in part be attributed to the automobile.

A second threat to the bibliophile was the motion picture industry. Although it was impossible to predict in the beginning, today moving pictures provide many educational features. But it was the entertainment value of the movies which threatened the book as a storyteller. Yet, ironically, it is the art of storytelling which may prove to be the book's salvation. Movies have merely whetted the appetite for more reading ("See the movie, read the book," and vice-versa), and no matter how well directed and acted, there is no story presentation which thrills us quite so much as the picture we see for ourselves when we read a book. The movie, "Gone With the Wind," probably came as close to capturing the spirit and the times of the novel on which it was based as any other movie ever produced; but as excellent a recreation as it was, it fell short in sheer magnitude of that durable and popular novel which is read as avidly today as it was at the time of its writing, thirty years ago.

We all remember the gloom which surrounded us when television became a reality. Surely, there would be no need for Johnny ever to read again. It would be so convenient, so accessible, so powerful in its impact. Here at last was the death-blow to the book. There was even speculation that television would replace classroom teachers. But, of course, just the opposite has occurred. In fact, television has probably *created* a wider readership than we have ever known before. Librarians know that a book has only to be mentioned by a TV personality, and the telephone begins ringing almost immediately. It is also safe to assume that book sales can be charted accordingly. Teachers and librarians are in greater demand than at any time in history, and the publishing industry is healthier than ever, despite the rising production costs.

I believe in the durability of the book. I believe that anything which has so consistently provided the knowledge, the pleasure, the relaxation, and the sheer joy which can only be found in a book is bound to endure. People are as addicted to books as they are to food and drink; and God bless paperbacks —the habit is getting stronger every day. We should all welcome any and all methods which will spread the ideas in books to more and more people.

The book of the future? It will be there, even as we know it today.

Not long ago I was clearing out some files which had accumulated, and I ran across a child's essay which I had been saving for an appropriate occasion. I almost threw it in the wastebasket when it suddenly occurred to me that *this* was the moment for which I had been waiting:

"WHAT I LIKE BEST"

"I love to snuggle down in a warm corner and read a book.

"Why? Because reading a book is a wonderful thing to do. It gives you a glorious feeling to sit there in a little world all by yourself.

"What do you do? Crouch down and munch on a cookie or a piece of yesterday's cold turkey, believe you are the princess or knight in shining armor.

"How does it feel? Peaceful, quiet, lonely, wonderful, or maybe even frightening.

"What does it mean to me? I think reading is joyful, superb.

What happens at the end? Your heart is broken when the prince died, you're happy they got married, you're laughing when he got into trouble. Well, anyway, it's over, so there is nothing you can do about it, or is there? Yes! ! Get another book and enjoy that one too! !"

* * *

That's the next generation talking. Get the

NEW YORK PUBLIC'S VAN ACKEN RETIRES

Alois Van Acken, foreman since 1946 of The New York Public Library's bindery, has recently retired after thirty years with the institution's Printing Office and Bindery.

Born in Germany, Mr. Van Acken began his career in his hometown of Krefeld, working in the printing plant owned by his father. He was later employed as a bookbinder in Leipzig's largest bindery, and in Stuttgart, as a gold stamper and finisher. While working and studying in Stuttgart, he passed his examination as a Master Bookbinder, having previously served as an apprentice and a journeyman.

Following his arrival in the United States in 1925, he worked for H. Wolff and Co., as well as other American binding concerns. In the summer of 1935, he was hired by William R. Thurman, Sr., then head of The New York Public Library's Bindery, as a "summer worker"—the start of his thirty years' service with the Library.

His talent and creativity were soon apparent, according to Karl Kup, creator of the Spencer Collection of illustrated books, with whom Mr. Van Acken frequently collaborated in efforts to preserve the Library's treasures. "Mr. Van Acken was always seeking to improve on the function and appearance of rebinds, slip cases and protective boxes,"

deal from him."

His ingenuity emerged particularly in designing slipcases for unusual Oriental material —for example, 11th Century Indian palm leaves inscribed with Buddhist prayers written in Sanskrit and illuminated with beautiful miniatures, belonging to the Spencer collection.

It was Alois Van Acken, who, while working on the "bench," was given the responsibility of taking apart and later rebinding the "Tickhill Psalter," a 14th Century English illuminated manuscript. This was done to prepare plates for Donald Drew Egbert's study, "The Tickhill Psalter and Related Manuscripts," printed at The New York Public Library and published under the auspices of The Library and the Department of Art and Archaeology of Princeton University.

Proud of his craft, and in an effort to promote excellence, Alois Van Acken voluntarily trained other Library bindery workers by instituting and teaching Saturday morning classes in bookbinding. The men who today do the binding under his supervision were all trained by him.

Though with a skill reminiscent of an age when cloistered monks bent devotedly over hand-made books, the bindery of The New York Public Library does a surprisingly large volume of work. The amount has steadily increased under Mr. Van Acken's foremanship. Last year more than 34,000 volumes were bound and repairs totaled about 5,000. This was in addition to special work such as custom-made portfolios, slipcases, manuscript boxes, and various types of binders; the mounting of maps, posters and prints; laminations; and repair and preservation of the manuscripts in the Arents, Berg and Spencer Collections.

In addition to overseeing the production for The New York Public Library, Alois Van Acken has for many years been on the board of examiners of the Library Binding Institute.

He now intends to "take it easy," do some advisory work, and try to visit Germany next year for his mother-in-law's ninetieth birthday. He and his wife, Johanna, live in Springfield Gardens, Queens.

WESTHAUS JOINS McLAUGHLIN

Albert J. Westhaus has recently joined William J. McLaughlin & Company, Inc. of Philadelphia, as their sales and service representative in Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Kentucky, Illinois, West Virginia and western Pennsylvania. Mr. Westhaus, formerly with Slade, Hipp & Meloy, will have headquarters in Chicago.

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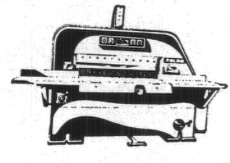

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LBI'S APPROACH TO THE MAINTENANCE OF LIBRARY MATERIALS

By DUDLEY A. WEISS, *Executive Director and General Counsel*
Library Binding Institute

This is an era of fluidity in the area of the maintenance of library materials. The Council on Library Resources is financing a much-needed study of library binding by ALA. LBI is devoting considerable effort to a review of its standard, testing of materials and working with suppliers toward the improvement of existing (and development of new) materials and machinery.

The pivot of activity centers upon the nature, kind and number of standards for library volumes; hence, a statement of industry thinking on this subject is desirable.

The Project to Develop Performance Standards

Apart from brief comments in the Reports of the Council on Library Resources, probably the most detailed published thinking of the Library Technology Project is contained in the "Developments of Performance Standards for Library Binding, Phase I." (1961)

Logical Difficulty

It is difficult, to find in this publication where there is any established logical justification for the need for performance standards for the bulk of library materials. The expressed purpose of the study is to:

> "A. To assemble data, through visitations to libraries, regarding the binding needs of libraries.
>
> B. To identify and define, as a result of the foregoing, the principal categories of library binding for which performance standards, specifications, and acceptance tests are needed."

However, the study does not start out to determine what kind of standards are necessary to meet library needs, but rather with the preconceived idea of developing "performance" standards. Nowhere is there any evidence that such standards will meet library needs, at least for the bulk of library materials now being bound by Class A (LBI Standard for Library Binding).

Indeed, it points out graphically that Class A Standard binding meets library needs for the bulk of library materials, and it suggests A will do. Subsequent testing by Mr. Barrow affirms the durability of Class A.

Logically, at this point, the report should justify a departure from the present satisfactory method of specifying methods and materials. This it does, not by offering any evidence, but by asserting a conclusion of fact wholly unfounded by anything in the report. The conclusion it states is as follows:

> "Specifications are manufacturers' 'blueprints' for making a commodity, but specifications standing alone tend to be inflexible. With the rapidly advancing technology of the present day, librarians must be assured of receiving the benefits of these advances. This can be done only through the establishment of standards in terms of performance. Using such standards as a basis, specifications may then be developed which will be flexible because they will be continuously rewritten in response to the results of the testing of new materials and methods."

This conclusion cannot be justified by any facts. The truth is that the facts warrant the opposite conclusion. The present method of defining library binding in terms of materials and methods *encourages* the advance of technology. A scientific inquiry seeks to elucidate facts and then build upon them. This inquiry starts with a premise and then seeks to prove it, but does not have the facts upon which proof can be established. If it proves anything, it is that the present method of establishing a library binding standard does meet the needs of libraries for most library materials.

Positive Contributions

Notwithstanding this logical inconsistency, the Project is a noteworthy contribution to resolving the problems of maintaining library collections. Its survey team, Stephen Ford and William Foley, and its Consultant, W. J. Barrow, are competent persons and are to be commended for their effort. The difficulty expressed above relates not to their findings, but rather to the conclusion which the report draws and which is unwarranted by the facts found.

The positive contributions are many and valuable. By and large, they document quite well positions which LBI has taken over the years, but they do go further and point out areas for action which the industry can endorse. Briefly, these contributions can be

A. It expresses binding needs in terms of end use.
"Three major groups of binding needs in libraries can be framed from an analysis of the information obtained in the interviews: (1) binding for material which is heavily used; (2) binding for material which is moderately used (or which though rarely used requires preservation for an indefinite period); and (3) binding for materials whose formats require special handling irrespective of the amount of use they receive."
This is LBI's position, although stated in the LBI HANDBOOK in somewhat different form. Based on day-by-day working with librarians in many kinds of libraries, our approach is that for volumes which will be subjected to the rigors of normal library use and circulation, or where completeness of a volume is important, LBI Standard Binding should be used. For other library materials, we have found that together a librarian and binder can work out the most effective method of handling the material.
Our entire approach is *end use,* and it is our best judgment that by specifying materials and methods, a product is produced which will provide the wanted end use, proof of the validity of which is confirmed by the survey findings.

B. It points out the vexing problems of material not falling in the general category of materials subject to normal usage. Our position on this has been, and is, that it would be desirable to have some generally accepted recommendations (Simplified Practices) for the handling of such materials.
This is particularly true of lesser-used materials. LBI was reluctant to join with ALA in issuing Lumspecs, because we knew libraries would not specify them. In fact, this happened and for the very reason found by the survey:
"Most of the librarians in the research libraries are satisfied with the bindings that have been devised for lesser-used materials in their libraries."
Every library binder has to cope with problems of extra heavy volumes, belles lettres, music, poor paper, inadequate margins, etc. The problem is not one of how to bind, but whether the cost is justified. These volumes are relatively few in number. They require separate handling and cannot be processed with other volumes. This requires extra expense for labor. What a binder does in analyzing this material with a library customer is to determine the end use and then develop a method of handling which is economically feasible both for him and the library.

C. It points out the inadequacy for library use of trade bindings. Book manufacturers create a product intended primarily for a market where use and circulation is not a factor; hence, the justification for library binding as a special kind of binding. While it may be uneconomical for publishers to create a volume able to withstand the requirements of a limited market, certain things can be done with little or no expense that would benefit libraries, such as adequate inner margins and a good quality of paper. This is an area where library efforts may bear fruit.

D. It points out the confusion in terminology of publishers of reinforced trade volumes. These are library editions and advertised under many names, primarily as "publishers' library bindings." This is an area where action is imperative if libraries are to be protected. The reinforced editions are, in many cases, not as strong as trade editions were some years ago. Claims are confusing.
The survey recommends action on terminology, and strangely enough "uniformity of quality and representation of these bindings: standardization of materials, processes, and nomenclature." In other words, it recommends specifications of materials and methods, which is what gives Class A its end-use value! Logically, how can it now say this and, at the same time, recommend a departure from this in the case of Class A where the end product is satisfactory?

E. The report covers many other points which are worth careful study, such as problems of paperbacks (LBI has much data on adhesive bindings), need for education, and problems of repair, to mention a few. It is comprehensive in the scope of its approach and its observations merit consideration.

Industry Position

The industry position on library binding may be summed up as follows:

A. Library customers need a volume which will be able to stand the rigors of normal library use. The way to do this is to build strength into the volume both with respect to the materials used and the method of fabrication.

B. There are many types of standards, one being the following (U. S. Dept. of Commerce):

"DEFINITION OF INDUSTRIAL STANDARD"

An industrial standard is a non-governmental document which defines character-

istics or measures of a commodity, items or process of general use in commerce, and is prepared or developed by a group recognized by those affected as having the qualifications and authority to set the standard.

Implicit in the above definition are the following characteristics of an industrial standard:

1—It is a published document.

2—It is generally technical in nature.

3—It is equally acceptable by producer or manufacturer as well as user or purchaser.

4—It applies to a product, process, or procedure with reference to one or more of the following: nomenclature; composition; construction; dimensions; tolerances, safety operating characteristics; performance; quality; rating; testing; and the service for which it is designed."

In selecting a method of developing a Standard, we start with the nature of the commodity. A library volume is characterized by diversity of size, shape, quality of components, condition of wear and similar factors. Hence, we must start with points where wear is fatal (signatures separating, cover wear and tear, volume falling out of cover) and proceed to requirements of reader usability.

Each of the forty-odd processing steps, and each of the materials used is related to this fundamental premise of end use.

There is a logical basis for each material and each processing step in the LBI Standard. Interestingly enough, one of the observations of our Plant Examiners in our Industry Quality Control Program (all Certified Binders are inspected periodically) is that while each binder does things differently in processing, no two plants being exactly alike the end product, the LBI Standard Library Bound volume, is a remarkably uniform product in all plants. The specifications are thus flexible, rather than rigid, a fact which is contrary to the conclusions of the writer of the report.

C. The principal issue which LBI takes with the Report relates to the conclusion that a performance standard is more flexible than a specification of materials and methods in encouraging use of new technology.

Our position is that the reverse is true, and that the facts warrant this finding.

With respect to machinery and equipment, during the past decade new equipment has been developed and is in use for every major processing step, is still continuing. Even the basic equipment, the oversewing machine, has been continually improved. The only operations for which no new machinery has been developed or old machinery improved are collating and inspecting, both of which require individual labor. Collating is an expensive operation, probably the most, and is a necessity to insure completeness of a volume (particularly periodicals).

With respect to materials, every single material has been re-examined in the past ten years and is continually the subject of research and improvement. LBI is working with United States Testing Company on this project and has worked with other testing companies and with suppliers and their laboratories. New materials are tested and, where appropriate, used. The most significant stumbling block to some materials is price, for the economy of the end product is always a factor.

This method of proceeding would not be possible without specifications of materials and methods as in our Standard. The failure to recognize and to understand this economic fact is the one single most important omission in the Report. Similarly, during the past few years, there has been an intensive development of new equipment.

To develop a piece of machinery requires an expenditure of $15,000 to $35,000 and, in some cases, more. About twenty-five machines can be sold in the first year. Over a period of three years, fifty to sixty machines will be sold. The significant fact is that unless a machinery manufacturer knows he has a market, he will not assume the capital expenses of development. *The existence of specifications for methods is the one single most important fact in encouraging the development of new equipment.* So important is this that if methods were not specified, technological improvements would cease, for without a potential market, no economic justifications would exist for new developments.

The same is true of materials. For example, thousands of dollars have been spent to upgrade in quality and appearance the present pyroxylin-impregnated cover material, and to develop attractive illustrated covers. Unless a market existed, no such investment would be justified.

Volumes bound today by the LBI Standard are the best in the world. Our Standard is fast becoming the world standard, and the equipment used in

being exported to practically all countries. In addition, the constant improvement in materials and methods has made the present LBI Standard bound volume better than it was even a few years ago.

D. Basic to the LBI position is that libraries must be protected. The national investment in library collections has reached a staggering figure and the current emphasis on acquisitions stimulated by federal funds will balloon the present figure.

The maintenance of this national investment is a solemn responsibility in which both librarians and library binders share.

In their writings, library scholars have stressed that maintenance is the task of all library personnel, and LBI has spelled this out in its HANDBOOK.

But we have gone further by establishing a simple, but effective system whereby any librarian can readily and easily obtain binding adequate for its task of maintaining its collection. This system involves the following:

1. All a librarian has to do to obtain LBI Standard Binding is to specify it when ordering binding (either rebound or prebound). Certified Library Binders must warrant on their invoices that the volumes included in the invoice meet the Standard, unless specifically noted.
2. Any librarian can have volumes examined by a Panel of Examiners free of charge to determine compliance.
3. Each Certified Library Binder must be recommended by librarians, participate in the Industry Quality Control Program, subscribe to the FTC's Trade Practice Rules for the Library Binding Industry, and carry insurance to protect customers' property.

From an administrative point of view, a performance standard might be difficult, or impossible, to enforce. The project (Phase II) has in mind testing Class A books then relating the results to a performance in number of circulations. Few libraries today keep accurate records of circulations per volume. As a practical matter, a performance standard would be unenforceable, except at a maximum expenditure of time, effort and expense by libraries.

E. The industry believes that the present system has resulted in a price situation favorable to libraries and that this is due to the present type of standard. The price of binding books and periodicals has increased about half the rate of increase of buying books and periodicals. Hence, we feel no advantage would be gained by a different Standard.

In fact, it could be more, rather than less, expensive. By having specifications for materials and methods covering the bulk of materials being processed, one production line is set up. If several standards existed, processing and record keeping would become more complicated and expensive, and conceivably the price might rise. Indeed, this happened in some plants processing lumspecs.

Industry Recommendations

LBI is somewhat reluctant to make recommendations since the final recommendations of Phase II have not been made public. The general approach we suggest is along the following lines:

A. It does not make sense for librarians to try to resolve problems of library binding without talking to library binders. If an industry group of furniture manufacturers or book manufacturers or library binders were to make a study to set standards for the performance by librarians of their tasks without consulting and working closely with librarians, their findings and recommendations would hardly be entitled to the profession's consideration. That is the exact position of the Library Technology Project with respect to library binding.

Therefore, our suggestion is that some formal means must be set up for ALA, LTP and LBI to talk together and work together.

B. The present type of Standard for Library Binding should be retained with a sustained program to continue the research in materials and methods under a cooperative committee of ALA, LTP and LBI. Mr. Barrow's findings as to significant points of wear might be a starting point, the idea being that the performance desired of the end product can be obtained best by attention to the component parts (as to which, being materials, performance tests are applicable) and their fabrication.

C. Special task forces be assigned to follow through on the wealth of material in the report which should be used to build the technology of maintaining collections.

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In a recent survey LBI asked librarians this question: "What is the one single thing which (in your opinion) would improve a librarian's task of maintaining collections?" The following are actual verbatim answers of librarians to this question, but the solution is very simple: If you buy "Prebinds," buy them from your Certified Library Binder:

"Need better publishers' trade bindings, including cloth covers, more sewing, no spiral bindings or loose-leaf books. It is a nuisance to have the spine completely covered with letters and decorations (no place for library lettering) and endpapers. Advertising stick-on labels which cannot be removed are also undesirable.

"The most important thing that publishers could do to help in maintaining library collections is to be conscientious about the kind of binding materials they use—books come apart, paper is used in trade editions to cover boards instead of cloth, and signatures are left out or bound in upside down.

"A better quality of the manufactured product of the book or magazine.

"Do away with publishers' library editions and let prebinders have access to sheets for all juveniles. Set up standards for trade editions which would require adequate interior margins and reasonably sturdy hinges.

"I am unhappy with publishers' binding—both the trade bindings and so-called library reinforced bindings. Far too many popular fiction, western and mystery titles and juveniles in which the trade bindings are altogether too flimsy to take even ten circulations. The library editions too often are not worth the extra price tag, turning up with high frequency on the mend shelves with wobbly hinges or the lightweight cloth wearing too rapidly on spine and corners. We buy prebounds for many juvenile titles (i.e. buckram Class A binding). For many adult popular titles with limited usefulness, we would prefer not to rebind, but are forced to do so before the popularity dies down. Something less than Class A binding might serve the purpose, but the volume of these in this size library does not seem to justify the extra decision, sorting and handling.

"It seems to me the best thing for libraries trying to keep up their collections would be to have their trade editions more substantial. It is discouraging to have comparatively new books come out of the hinges and the pages come loose from the backs.

"Better publishers' bindings.

"We purchase prebound juveniles whenever possible. Prebinding charges are not included in the figures given. Greater purchase potential of backlist prebound juveniles would be a real help. Along with this, the publisher's habit of keeping in stock only reinforced editions of many books has been a serious detriment.

"Better trade editions.

"Better publishers bindings. The books which have *single* sheets for each page and are glued together do not even circulate once before pages are loose—and they cannot be rebound successfully. Also wider inner margins might allow for stab binding when regular sewing is not feasible. Elimination of vandalism—cutout illustrations, mutilations, etc.

"Elimination of the so-called 'perfection' binding used by . . . and other publishers. Since this binding substitutes glue for sewing, it does not hold up for libraries.

"We have found that the best way to maintain a good collection is to have all books for school use, bookmobile use, branch school use, and in the juvenile department bound before putting in use. This saves us money, time and the wait of having books bound after they have been in use. Now we have the books bound before putting on the shelf and it means a cleaner, brighter, more satisfactory collection. It is expensive in the beginning, but saves money in the end.

"Improvement in book making! Regular trade editions are often not even sewed any more and frequently a new book needs mending before it reaches the shelves. After 10 circulations many have to be discarded or rebound. Until the publishers improve their binding, we don't have a chance.

"Publishers should improve sewing of new books.

"Better standards for *publishers'* 'Library Binding'—They are generally poor; and vary in quality from one extreme to another. This refers to juvenile books only.

(continued page 12)

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"It would be wonderful if publishers would bind a certain percentage of all their books in library binding for purchase by libraries (public, college, or school). Such a percentage could be easily estimated from previous sales by the publisher. Naturally, librarians who need to select certain titles for special collections would still want the original bindings.

"A better quality product from the publisher to start off with.

"In my opinion, strong all-over *end papers* in publishers bindings would extend the number of circulations. The weak single-sheet end paper gives the case little support, and weakens the sewing or glue. There is practically no hinge in this type book.

"Better original publishers' binding, with wider inner margins. Some publishers' bindings are falling apart before they even reach the shelves, and some last for only 3 or 4 circulations. In the small, narrow juvenile books, the spine seems to come off before the rest of the binding deteriorates.

"The life of the book would be extended if publishers allowed wider inner margins and used better paper.

"Better publishing. If magazines would adopt some uniformity and consistency in such things as size, numbering, titling, etc., it would help. If publishers' binding were improved, this would help. Particularly, many of the bindings of . . . and other publishers of art books fall apart even before the first circulation.

"Improvement of book production would make the task of maintaining book collections easier; improvement of the quality of paper used in book publishing; higher standards for publishers' bindings, including the discontinuance of over-thick volumes, which break apart after a few circulations."

WILLIAM J. McLAUGHLIN & COMPANY, INC. PROMOTES OFFICERS

At the last stockholders' and board of directors' meeting, William J. McLaughlin, Sr., was elected Chairman of the Board of William J. McLaughlin & Company, Inc., Philadelphia distributor of bookbinding supplies. William J. McLaughlin, Jr., was named President; Charles F. Sullivan, Vice President; C. Eugene McLaughlin, Vice President and Assistant Treasurer; Virginia F. Priem, Treasurer; and Wallace E. Stoots, Secretary.

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ALA AWARDS 1965

LBI SCHOLARSHIP

Miss Barbara Ellen Wunder, a member of the clerical division of the Reference Department, Ohio State University's William Oxley Thompson Library, has been named winner of the 1965, Library Binding Institute Scholarship of $1,000.

Miss Wunder plans to work toward an M.L.S. at the Graduate School of Librarianship, University of California, Berkeley.

The scholarship was established by the Library Binding Institute and is awarded annually by the American Library Association to a worthy United States resident student to further his library education, without regard to race, color, creed or geographical origin. The award is administered by the Library Education Division of ALA. Chairman of the Award Committee was Robert Lee, Director, Library School, Kansas State College, Emporia.

Miss Wunder, a native of Rochester, New York, is a cum laude graduate of Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, where she majored in experimental psychology. She was a member of Phi Beta Kappa during her junior year. Upon completion of her library science training, Miss Wunder plans to work in a college or university library.

L.B.I. MEMBER PARTICIPATES IN MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION CONVENTION

At the annual convention of the Medical Library Association in Philadelphia, Mrs. C. W. Gross of Joseph Ruzicka, Inc., presented a fifteen minute paper on the "Techniques of Binding." She was attending the convention as one member of a four-man panel on "Topics in Library Technology." Other members of the panel included: Jerome S. Rauch, Librarian of the Seton Hall College of Medicine and Dentistry, Jersey City; Stanley D. Truelson, Jr., Librarian of the Edward G. Miner Library, School of Medicine and Dentistry, University of Rochester; and John Balkema, Reference Librarian of the Welch Medical Library, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore. Miss Louise Darling, Biomedical Librarian at the Center for the Health Sciences, University of California in Los Angeles, presided.

At this same meeting Mr. Alfred N. Brandon, Librarian of Welch Medical Library, was inaugurated as the 1965-66 President of the Medical Library Association.

Frederick H. Radford (left), managing director of F. H. Radford Limited of London, presents Sir Philip Hendy's "The National Gallery" to Mr. David Powers, former White House aide to the late President John F. Kennedy, for inclusion in the Kennedy Memorial Library. Mr. Radford is public relations officer to the National Library Week of the United Kingdom, which opens in March 1966. He was sent to the United States to present the book and to study the eighth annual American National Library Week. Presentation was made at Library U.S.A. in the U. S. Pavilion at the New York World's Fair. (Photograph by Melvin B. Summerfield)

THE EDGE OF HUSBANDRY: THE ROLE OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE

By MARTIN M. CUMMINGS, M.D.

At the dedication exercises of the New Francis A. Countway Library at Harvard Medical School, Dr. Martin M. Cummings, Director of the National Library of Medicine, Bethesda, Maryland, spoke of the perpetuity of books and the need for new methods of bibliographic control. Excerpts of his speech here follow:

. . . There are certain principles of library practice which I believe are fundamental to modern communications in the health sciences. We are here today not only to participate in the dedication of this commanding new library, but also, to honor those individuals who had the vision and foresight to assemble the great collection which is contained within it. . . .

In a sense also we honor several physicians of the past who contributed significantly to the development of medical librarianship throughout the nation. From among those contributors, I have chosen to reexamine some of the publications of your native son, Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes, of Dr. John Shaw Billings, the founder of the National Library of Medicine, and of Dr. Harvey Cushing, who had an influence on the development of several medical libraries. These far-sighted physicians shared not only a love for books but they also demonstrated the skills of library husbandry. They participated prominently in the dedication of three great libraries, the Boston Medical Library, the Library of the Surgeon General's Office of the United States Army, and the Dudley P. Allen Memorial Medical Library in Cleveland . . .

In 1876 Billings, in his letter of transmittal to General Joseph K. Barnes, attempted to justify his development of the *Index Catalogue*: "All medical writers know that the most valuable part of medical literature consists of the records of cases and original observations, and that, for the present century, the greater part of such records are contained in periodical publications. These are difficult to obtain and preserve, occupy a large amount of space, and, even when accessible, require much time and labor to consult. It is not very difficult, although rather expensive, for a physician who is interested in a particular subject to obtain all the really important monographs relating to it; but that which he cannot obtain, and which he must look to large public libraries to supply, are the journals and transactions containing the most valuable data for his purpose."

Two years later Holmes, in his dedication address at the opening of the new Boston Medical Library in 1878, referring to Billings' work in organizing the "National Library of Medicine" stated, "But it is from the National Medical Library at Washington that we have the best promise and the largest expectations. That great and growing collection of fifty thousand volumes is under the eye and hand of a librarian who knows books and how to manage them. For libraries are the standing armies of civilization, and an army is but a mob without a general who can organize and marshal it so as to make it effective. . . ."

Garrison recounted in 1915 the efforts made by Billings to gain financial support for the budding National Medical Library. "The necessary appropriations for the Library were eventually made by Congress, upon which its collection of books gradually expanded from year to year up to its present numerical status of half a million volumes. But Dr. Billings did not rest content with Congressional appropriations. By means of gifts and exchanges and by choosing from such private collections as were generously thrown open to him he laboured indefatigably towards completing his collection, obtaining in this way many rare desiderata and filling up many lacunae. . . ."

The importance of books and journals to the advancement of medicine extends beyond the mere acquisition of a collection. It requires the mechanism for organization, preservation and dissemination of the materials brought together within a library. It requires also the understanding by students and physicians of the power contained in an organized collection.

Harvey Cushing, in 1926, speaking about the physician and his books, expressed his interest in library husbandry as follows, "The profession cannot long play the cuckoo with its books. It must build its own nest and care for its own brood. A book-conscience, thereby developed, serves as the best possible measure of the status of the profession. As the calorimeter tells the activity of the patient's metabolism, so may you determine the plus or minus activity of the local profession in any district by the condition of its library. And

no less well may one gauge the quality of a medical school of a hospital, of a laboratory, of the individual doctor himself, by the same standard. . . ."

Billings, Holmes, and Cushing through their love of books and appreciation of library functions gave American medicine a scholarly reputation which it previously did not enjoy. While husbanding collections, they also encouraged the fertilization of ideas and achievements through loan of their library materials.

Interlibrary cooperation, at least to some degree, goes back to the Middle Ages when the whole process of making books by copying manuscripts took place. Thus the idea of interlibrary loan had as a philosophic basis the belief that libraries were to extend the use of books and manuscripts as well as to preserve them.

J. W. Thompson describes the borrowing of books from the library of the Abbey of Fulda in the Middle Ages by monasteries in Germany and France. The Lending was so brisk that an exchange catalogue was kept. He also points out that in the eleventh century true rules of library husbandry were drawn up for libraries with all books being placed in charge of an Armarius who ranked next to the Abbot. Library regulations were promulgated which did not allow books to be lent without a sufficient deposit. To guard against loss, service books and valuable works were chained. . . .

Today, the National Library of Medicine, with a collection of 1,117,000 bound volumes, theses and pamphlets, is poised at the apex of an informal medical library network providing loans and copies of its materials to nearly all medical libraries in this nation and abroad.

Serving a national community of 6000 medical libraries in 1964, it responded to more than 150,000 requests for service. More than 130,000 loans were made, 20,000 reference requests were answered and more than a thousand bibliographic services were provided. Approximately 30,000 loan requests came from the nation's medical school libraries. . . .

In addition, there has been a 25% annual increase in reader use of our collection, to the extent of 55,000 readers served in 1964, and there is evidence that the reader use continues to increase at the same rate this year. I challenge those who say that libraries are a dying instrument of society to explain this finding.

Most medical libraries are subject to growing use, and carry on similar exchanges among themselves. The greater the library, the more likely it is to be a lender; the smaller libraries are welcome (but pressing) borrowers. But, paradoxically, many of our nation's greatest medical libraries use the more frequently than do the smaller medical libraries. I surmise that this reflects the thirst for medical information on the part of a large active medical community served by a great local library. It also reflects the attitude of the local librarian who goes to all lengths to acquire the material requested of him by the users of his library. Finally, it reflects an overload of the local library system. . . .

It is of interest to note that two Boston medical school libraries appear among the leading ten borrowers from NLM. It is of further interest that one of these schools has a collection of 400,000 volumes and the other 27,000. It would be important to know why the largest and smallest medical libraries in Boston make equal use of NLM.

The accumulation of medical knowledge during the past four centuries has been so vast that even the greatest medical libraries can no longer claim to have the entire printed record within their own institution. Medical libraries recognized this at the turn of the century and began to lend books, journals, and other documents informally, usually upon the request of an individual faculty member. The leaders of American medicine at that time borrowed generously from one another, challenging Polonius' admonition "Neither a borrower, nor a lender be; For loan oft loses both itself and friend, and borrowing dulls the edge of husbandry. . . ."

Although no direct relationship has been shown between the size of a library's collection and its ability to mine out of its information that refinement of material needed to respond to a specific query, one could argue that the larger a collection the greater potential there exists for finding the right answer. It may be interesting therefore to compare the size of the collection for NLM and Harvard, at the same point in their history (1963). . . . In 1963 Harvard had a medical library collection about one-third the size of NLM (330,000 vols. as against 1,021,784) and was receiving one-fourth the number of serial titles (4,200 as against 16,000). I have no doubt that the ore at Harvard assayed much higher than that at NLM since the Harvard acquisitions must be more selective than ours. The nature of our national function requires us to seek out and add *all* published literature in *all* languages which have relevance to biomedical investigation, education and practice. Our collection contained in 1963, for instance, 285,012 theses. While theses may have represented first presentations of important findings in the 19th century and earlier there is some doubt that they would assay quite as highly today.

NLM has from time to time made careful study of the use of its collection through interlibrary loan, particularly since the expansion of its use of photocopies as a means

duce quickly and inexpensively copies of documents for distribution is perhaps one of the greatest contributions of modern technology to scholarship, to information services, and to scientific communication. . . .

NLM interlibrary loan service is unique in several ways: first it is authorized by law; secondly, a large part of it is accomplished by means of photocopy (95%) and thirdly, and this is probably what makes it more attractive than service from other sources, no charge is made.

In many respects one might anticipate that the nature of the demand on NLM might be considerably different than the interlibrary loan demand made, for instance on Harvard. In fact, however, when we compare the frequency of use of specific titles among the few libraries which have published the results of such analysis, we note a great deal of correspondence between the 100-300 titles most frequently used on these lists, with the most frequent 100-300 used in response to interlibrary loan requests at NLM.

Studies of our entire list have shown that 1,000 titles account for about 80% of all of our interlibrary loan demand, and that with the addition of each thousand titles there is a rapid fall off in use. With the second thousand titles there is a 15% increase (to 95%), with the third thousand a 3% increase (to 98%) and with the fourth a 1.5% increase (to 99.5%). To meet the remaining 0.5% of total demand would undoubtedly require a collection much larger than that of NLM. . . .

For some reasons not yet clearly elucidated, a small number of journals yields a large number of the citations with which biomedical scientists concern themselves. This may be due to the following: (1) papers of highest quality tend to gravitate toward a select number of journals, (2) U. S. scientists are parochial in their interests and tend to cite only their own countrymen or only themselves, and (3) linguistic barriers exist in exploring literature in languages other than English. For example, in the field of medicine, one of the most frequently copied titles at NLM is the *Journal of the American Medical Association,* a publication which should be readily available in any local community. . . .

More than two million pages of medical literature were copied by the National Library of Medicine and sent to other medical libraries last year. Our responsibilities for acquisition, cataloging, indexing, preserving and disseminating all of the literature which pertains to medicine places us on the very edge of husbandry; since to manage prudently and economically such a vast resource requires the judicious development of library policies and procedures.

It is my view that the time has come for rapid expansion of library resources locally. Continued dependency of the more than 6,000 medical libraries upon the services of the National Library of Medicine would lead ultimately to the evolution of a monolithic medical library resource in this nation. For the convenience of the user, for the inspiration which the presence of the local library gives to its own community, for the serendipity which accompanies browsing and search, strong medical libraries must exist wherever there are strong biomedical interests.

In my view our country requires the development of a complex of regional medical

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libraries with adequate facilities, resources and personnel to serve those sections of the nation with underdeveloped library facilities. NLM has submitted legislative specifications to Congress and the Administration requesting authority and funds to provide assistance to local and regional libraries for 1) library construction, 2) training of librarians, 3) research in the field of information sciences, 4) library resources, 5) development of regional libraries, 6) publications and translations support. I am encouraged by the favorable reaction of librarians, physicians, and scientists to these proposals.

Whereas NLM is working towards upgrading the services provided by local medical libraries, we believe that bibliographic control of the medical literature can be provided more economically by centralizing indexing and cataloging functions. The awesome task of producing the *Index Medicus* which the National Library of Medicine has produced intermittently since 1879, could not be decentralized efficiently or economically. . . .

I believe that the cataloging of medical books and monographs might now be centralized since the availability of computer technology makes it possible to produce, reproduce and disseminate rapidly cataloging data to all medical libraries.

It is difficult to understand why most of the medical libraries of this nation insist upon cataloging their own materials in their own way. Unfortunately, no absolute uniformity of application of cataloging rules exists, thus making it difficult to have a "catalog dialogue." The recent effort of Harvard, Yale and Columbia to develop an integrated cataloging system is an effort in the right direction. But here, too, caution should be exercised to be certain that this regional development is compatible with national planning, particularly where there is the intention of applying computers to library procedures through a national network.

The successful functioning of the MEDLARS program (Medical Literature Analysis and Retrieval System) at the National Library of Medicine provides convincing evidence that the use of automation within a research library is feasible and practicable. We plan to share the vast power of storing and retrieving bibliographical citations on magnetic tape with all the nation's medical libraries. Certain universities will receive our support to operate regional MEDLARS centers—and here we hope that libraries like the Countway will join with us in this effort to decentralize these computerized bibliographic services. Also, we intend to share the products produced by developing a system of automated cataloging. These modalities accompanied by the existing system of providing rapid photocopies or microfilms of scientific articles upon request, should then potentially give every medical library and its users accessibility to the same materials which exist within the world's largest medical library. This is as it should be, since all medical information should be in the public domain.

If medical libraries are to serve modern society and its needs, they must continue to challenge Shakespeare's concept of borrowing and lending.

In the future the holdings and information contained in one medical library may be searched in a more direct way and examined by many other medical libraries. Indeed, the technology is near at hand when students, physicians, and scientists, may be able to make such a search from their offices, from the bedside or from the clinic. Osler's aphorism "From book to bedside and back to book again" may be modified to "From computer to bedside and back to computer again." More likely, however, a combination of both books and computers will be the order of the twenty-first century.

Billings, Holmes and Cushing shared principles, beliefs and philosophies that are pertinent today. First, books and manuscripts are essential to the progress of medicine; second, exposure to books is necessary for the advancement of the student of medicine, and third, library husbandry is a necessary and worthy calling. Further, Billings, Cushing and Holmes, were secure in their beliefs that there should be many local medical libraries with sufficeint strength to serve local needs, supported by a central national resource for preservation of books and serials, for indexing and cataloging the world's medical literature. These are the principles of library husbandry, whose edge is as sharp today (Shakespeare notwithstanding) as it was then. This is the path I see for future library growth and development—it is a path which the Countway Library at Harvard also appears to be following. . . .

Undoubtedly computers will assist us in the management of the world's literature. However, computers will not replace books any more than television replaced radio or radio replaced the phonograph or the phonograph the symphony orchestra. In fact, books are alive like the theatre or ballet, whereas computers satisfy our informational needs in an orderly but inanimate fashion. New methods of providing bibliographic control of the literature will emerge, but the principles of control will remain the same. Libraries remain society's servant and storehouse of knowledge. Research, teaching and medical practice need libraries in the same way that grass needs water and man needs food. It will be a cooler, unfeeling world when society loses its respect and need for libraries.

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LBI SURVEY ON MAINTENANCE OF LIBRARY MATERIALS

Late in 1964, LBI repeated (in substantially similar form) a survey which was conducted in 1954 and in 1960. The purpose of the survey was to obtain data which might be helpful to Library Binding Institute and to librarians in understanding problems of maintenance and planning for the future needs.

Three questions of particular interest and their answers are as follows:

1. "Of your books and periodicals that are rebound, approximately what percentage is done according to the LBI Standard for Library Binding (based upon the Minimum Specifications for Class A Library Binding of ALA and LBI)?"
   About 92% of Public Libraries indicated that they specify the LBI Standard for 75-100% of their binding. This is about the same as in the 1960 survey.
   About 95% of College and University Libraries indicated that they specify the LBI Standard for 75-100% of their binding. This is a greater percentage than in 1960 when the figure was 91%.
2. "What is the *approximate* average circulation of books bound in *LIBRARY* binding?"
   Of 73 Public Libraries answering, the average was 92.4 circulations for LBI Standard Binding. This compares with 80.25 circulations in 1960. All answers were estimates except one which was actual (305+ circulations); three answered 100+; and two answered "unlimited." The range was from 30 to unlimited, but almost 50% answered 100 or over.
   Of 21 College and University Libraries answering, the average was 89.3 circulations. This compared with 70.1 circulations in 1964. The highest two were eliminated—450 and 350 circulations. All were estimates.
3. "What is the approximate average circulation of books bound in publishers' binding?"
   Returns from 59 Public Libraries indicated that the average was 26.7 circulations for publishers' bindings. This compares with 26.08 in 1960. All answers were estimates except one which was actual (same as the one in the previous question), and its answer was 35 circulations. The range was from 6 to 52 circulations; almost 50% answered between 15 and 25 circulations.
   Returns from 28 College and University Libraries indicated that the average was 28.4 circulations for publishers' bindings. This compares with 24.6 circulations in 1960. All answers were estimates and the highest was eliminated. The range was from 12 to 55 circulations. Almost 55% were from 20 to 30 circulations.

Because libraries have different conditions affecting the usage of their materials, the ratios of library binding to publishers' bindings was compared. About 75% of Public Libraries indicated a 4-1 ratio; that is, that LBI Standard Library Binding will furnish about four times as many circulations as publishers' editions. In College and University Libraries, the ratio was 2-1 or better for 50% of the libraries.

Another question of special interest: "Do you know the approximate cost of putting a volume on the shelf, ready for reader use, *EXCLUDING* the cost of the volume?"

Returns were received from 190 Public Libraries: 44% did not know what it costs to put a book on the shelf. Of the 106 libraries indicating that they knew, the average was $1.91. Of 12 libraries with collections of 1 million volumes or more, only 4 knew what it costs to put a book on the shelf.

A summary of answers by size of library shows the following:

Size of Library	*No. Replies*	*Know Cost Yes*	*No*	*Range*	*Average*
Under 100,000 Volumes	**75**	**34**	**41**	**$ .45-$8.00**	**$1.71**
101,000-200,000	**42**	**22**	**20**	**.79- 6.50**	**1.98**
201,000-300,000	**34**	**26**	**8**	**.85- 4.50**	**1.83**
301,000-500,000	**13**	**11**	**2**	**.79- 5.00**	**1.74**
Over 500,000	**26**	**13**	**13**	**1.84- 3.50**	**2.61**

Of the 153 returns from College and University Libraries, 57% did not know what it costs to put a book on the shelf. Of the balance, many indicated that the answer was

the 12 libraries with collections of over 1 million volumes, 8 did not know what it costs to put a volume on the shelf. Of the 4 who did know, the average was $4.60, but the range was $2.50 to $8.00. Note the fol-

Size of Library	No. Replies	Know Cost Yes	No	Range	Average
Under 100,000 Volumes	51	27	24	$1.25-$12.00	$3.75
101,000-200,000	36	14	22	1.58- 5.00	3.80
201,000-300,000	18	8	10	2.50- 7.00	4.02
301,1,000-500,000	19	5	14	3.00- 11.00	5.20
Over 500,000	12	4	8	2.50- 8.00	4.60

There are several conclusions to be drawn from this survey, but the following appear to be most significant:

A. For the bulk of binding done in the United States, more than 90% of the libraries specify LBI Standard Library Binding. This is noteworthy, because it proves that this Standard meets the needs of American libraries, a conclusion consistent with the findings of other surveys.

B. LBI Standard Library Binding is a budget-saving device for libraries, since it furnishes more circulations or uses per dollar than any other binding. Comparing it with publishers' editions, most public libraries indicated a 4-1 ratio. This is significant when one considers the total cost of putting a volume on a shelf for reader use and divides that by the number of circulations. It is here that the budget-saving aspects of library binding appear most conclusive.
One interesting feature of the 1964 survey is the fact that only one public library in the entire sample kept accurate records of circulation. All others were estimates. This is of particular importance in view of the plethora of guarantees of a fixed number of circulations. It is difficult to see how such a guarantee of performance can be meaningful when no records are kept. Indeed, one wonders whether performance standards can ever be administratively feasible.

C. The most puzzling information is that regarding the cost of putting a volume on the shelf. It seems hard to believe that less than half of the public libraries and slightly more than half of the college libraries answering know this basic cost figure. Furthermore, it seems incredible that only one third of the libraries with collections of one million or more volumes know what it costs to put a volume on the shelf. Equally amazing, is the range of cost figures. With the tremendous expenditure of public funds now being directed toward libraries, it would seem that there is a need for a cost accounting system by which libraries can determine this figure easily and accurately.

D. Equally significant were the answers to the question, "What is the one single thing that would improve a librarian's task of maintaining collections?" The most prevalent answer was a complaint about publishers' bindings. Some of these answers are printed elsewere in this issue.

E. The one conclusion for both Librarians and Certified Library Binders is that the programs and policies which Library Binding Institute has established and follows are serving the basic aim of both Librarians and Certified Library Binders: To provide the best possible binding at the lowest possible cost and to make it easy for libraries to order it. A librarian has only to specify LBI Standard Library Binding when buying either prebinding or rebinding. If purchased from a Certified Library Binder, the invoice contains a warranty of adherence to the Standard, unless specifically noted otherwise.

REMINISCENCES OF A WORLD TRAVELER

(Editor's Note: MARIE GROSS, *whose metaphors and similes always command attention, recently returned from a round-the-world trip. These are some of her observations.)*

Most returning travelers are confronted with the same two questions: "What was your most outstanding experience" and "what place did you like best." I have never been able to answer the first; for how does one compare experiences: esthetically, psychologically, emotionally, intellectually? How can one equate the breathtaking beauty of the Sphinx and the Pyramids in full moonlight, the inspiration of the spontaneous reaction of veneration and love of the people for Pope Paul as he appeared for an audience, the almost traumatic experience of passing through the Mandelbaum Gate in a perceptible atmosphere of tension not alleviated a jot by a veritable cloudburst?

However, we had no difficulty in acclaiming Bangkok as our favorite spot, in spite of the close competition of other fascinating places. The beauties of the magnificent Imperial Palace, the many handsome temples with their world famous Buddhas, the charm of our hotel on the heavily trafficked Chao Phaya River, the startling contrasts between the age-old ways of the canal dwellers and the modern mood of the "new" city, the grace and beauty of the portrayers of the ancient classic dances, the interesting food and the unusual manner of serving it, and, perhaps most of all, the charm of the courteous, friendly Thais: all of these added up to three and a half days of

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pure delight.

On our first day there we contacted the sister of a Thai acquaintance, a young woman studying for her master's degree in library science at the University of Indiana. Amporn Viravathana had been in the United States for a year, and while working last summer under Miss Alice L. Robinson, Library Supervisor of the Frederick County Board of Education,* she visited the Quota Club of Baltimore. We Quotarians became interested in financing the continuation of her education (she had reached the limit of the financial assistance her government would allow to leave Thailand), and had maintained contact with her during the winter. Naturally, we became the bearers of messages and first hand reports to her family. Her sister, Mrs. Pongnard Thumrongrat, and her friend, Miss Parnsri Wichagonrakul, equally charming young ladies, took us sightseeing and shopping, and generally exposed us to a wonderful sample of delightful Thai hospitality which included presenting us with lovely gifts before we left their country.

One of the places they suggested we see was the U. S. Information Center, and it would be hard to say who was more pleased with it, they or we. It was located in a modern two-story building in the heart of town, air conditioned (outside temperature that day was an even 100°) and staffed by Thais. Its many patrons, most of whom seemed to be students, although this was summer vacation, were seriously attending to their reading. The collection covered many subjects, and there were several timely and interesting displays. The current brochure announced a new series of "Let's Speak English" lessons, special films on the evenings of April's four Mondays and four Saturday afternoon programs on music, science and Thai-Washington reports. Expected new periodical subscriptions included CHOICE, AMERICAN EDUCATION, ESQUIRE, and JOURNAL OF EDUCATION FOR LIBRARIANSHIP. Indeed, it was hard for us to believe that we were so far from home.

*Miss Robinson is President of the Maryland Library Association for 1965-66.

BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY INITIATES BOOK CATALOG

The Baltimore County Public Library was established under State Law in 1949, to serve the 550,000 suburban residents surrounding the city of Baltimore, Maryland; but it has only been during the past five years that it has received sufficient financial support to embark on an urgently needed expansion program encompassing buildings, staff and services.

In mid-1963, it became evident that a book catalog, judging from reports of similar libraries which had adopted the system, held many advantages for a library such as that in Baltimore County, especially considering that there was no large central collection. While the professional staff felt that a book catalog would improve service to readers and could be justified on that count alone, we were also enthusiastic about the possibilities of saving time and money in the establishment of new branches, as were County officials.

It is unnecessary to restate the advantages and disadvantages of a book catalog in comparison to a card catalog, since this has been done many times quite adequately. Suffice it to say that the advantages were marked in the case of a young and expanding system, and the disadvantages minimized by a relatively low number of titles, although the total bookstock is now 500,000, with about 100,000 volumes being added each year.

In late June, 1964, a contract was signed by Charles W. Robinson, Baltimore County Librarian, with Documentation, Incorporated, for both a basic book catalog, containing approximately 55,000 titles, supplements for the calendar year 1965, and a second basic catalog incorporating the additions. Documentation, in turn, contracted with Joseph Ruzicka, Inc., of Baltimore, to bind the catalogs when completed.

Throughout the project, we tried to hold in our minds the concept that this catalog was to be a finding list rather than a detailed bibliographical tool. For those libraries which find that the latter is paramount, our product would probably be unsatisfactory.

The Baltimore County Public Library book catalog is divided into three parts: author, title and subject, with each section showing holdings. The adult and juvenile catalogs are separate.

A basic catalog, both adult and juvenile, with eleven adult cumulative supplements and three juvenile supplements are to be issued annually.

The author catalog has the full catalog entry with the exception of the tracings. Cross references are present where necessary. The author heading appears in bold face caps and the call number is at the right, after the holdings. Fiction will have no call number, but mysteries, science fiction, westerns

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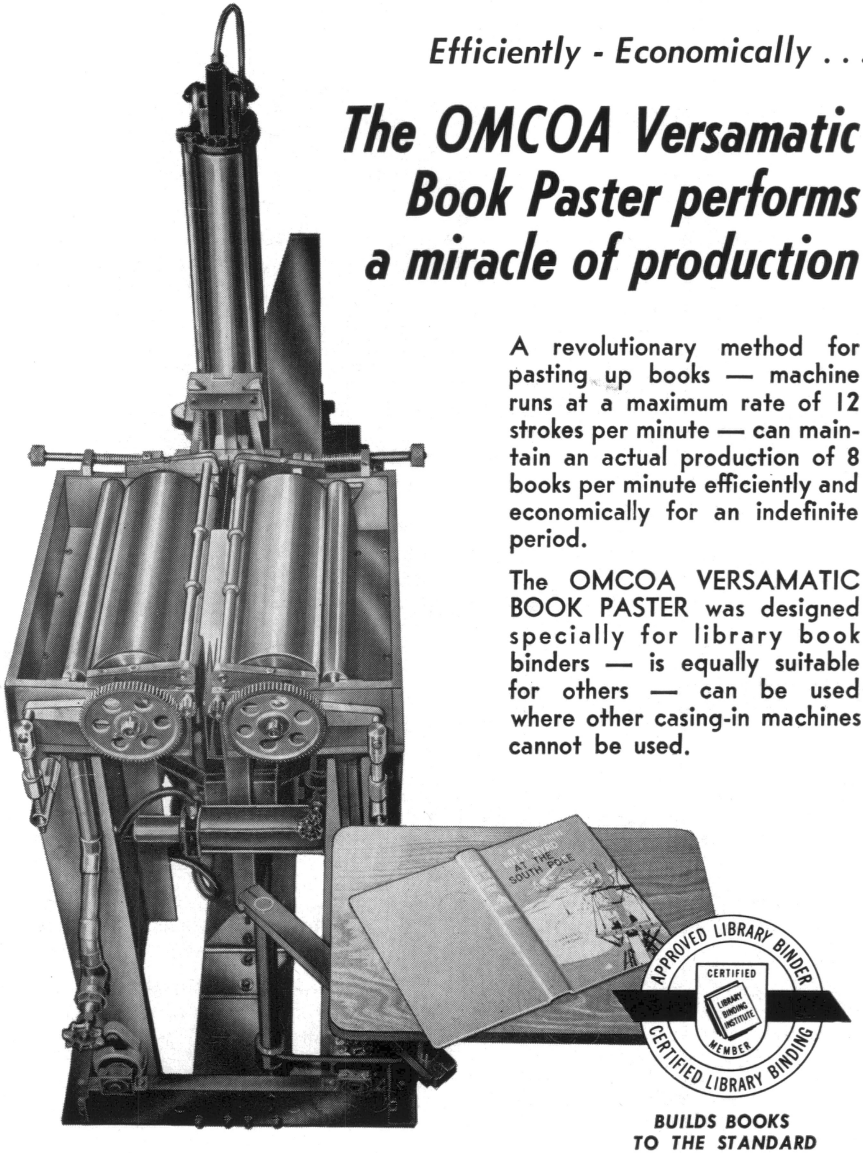

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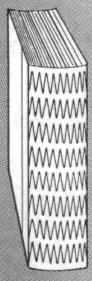

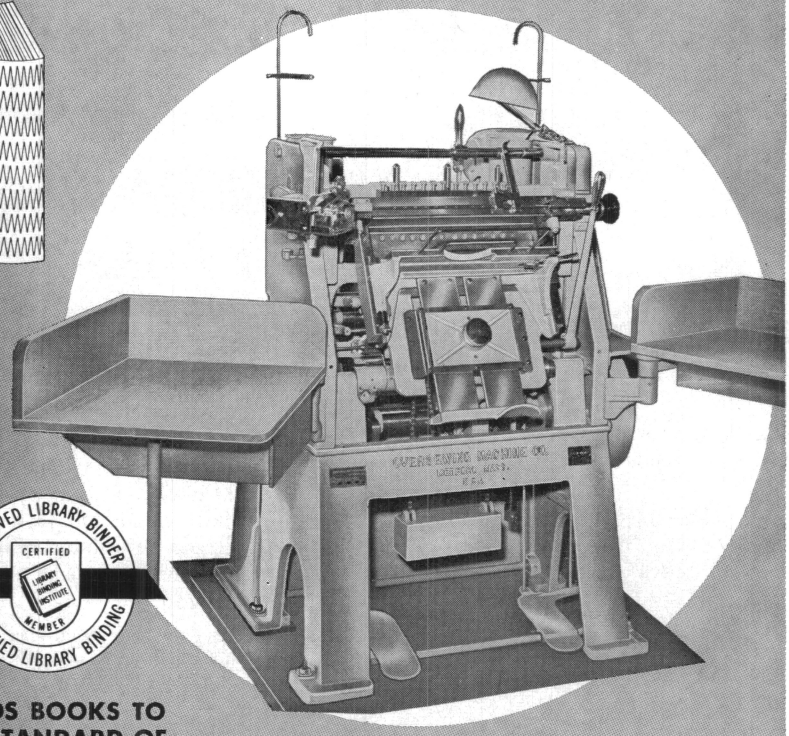

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and short stories have the designations M, SF, W and S in call number position.

The Baltimore County Public Library has always used simplified cataloging. The author statement is incorporated in the catalog entry only when necessary to show more than one author or a variation in the author's name. The author's dates are omitted except when there is a conflict. The imprint consists of a short form of the publisher's name and the copyright date. The collation is limited to the number of volumes when more than one. Editions are always described, and notes and contents are used only sparingly.

The subject catalog lists the subject headings in bold face caps, with the titles under the subject being arranged alphabetically by author. The entry consists of short title, author, copyright date, holdings and call number. There are no "see" or "see also" references because of the difficulty and expense of keeping them up-to-date. The number of subject headings per title is not limited, but an effort has been made to keep them at a minimum.

The title catalog shows the short title in bold face caps, author, call number, copyright date and holdings. Since the catalog is a divided one, more title entries are necessary than in the dictionary catalog.

The filing rules used in the book catalog are those listed in Appendix V of the "A.L.A. Rules for Filing Catalog Cards," and were adopted for the system in 1960, being slightly modified at the time of adoption. The only concession made to the computer was not to interfile the Mc's and the Mac's.

The capitalization rules are those used in the H. W. Wilson publications.

The computer print chain which has upper and lower case alphabetic characters does not have diacritical marks or brackets.

The first basic catalog contains approximately 55,000 titles. These are the titles that have been added to any agency in the system since 1959, whether new to the whole system or not. The decision to incorporate these titles only was necessitated by the fact that an expandable classed file of such titles existed.

There remain roughly 40,000 titles which do not appear in this file, but do appear in the central shelf list. When three or more copies exist, the cards are copied and sent to Documentation, Incorporated, for the inclusion in the supplements. When less than three copies are shown, they are checked to see if they really do exist and if so, whether they should be kept or withdrawn.

It is hoped that by means of the above procedure all the titles held by the system will be included in the second basic catalog.

Analytics for three act plays were not included in the classed file, and will, therefore, These will be added gradually to the supplements.

The cards sent to Documentation, Incorporated, were edited for items to be added or eliminated, for punctuation, and for possible shortening of the body of the entry.

It was necessary to edit for punctuation so that a short title could be recognized. For this purpose "short title" was defined as that portion of the title from the start to the first "stopping" punctuation mark. These punctuation marks are semi-colon, period, exclamation mark and question mark.

In order to save space and thus money, certain words were abbreviated in the body of the entry, e.g. translated to tr., edited to ed., etc.

The symbol CL for "Consult Librarian" was added to entries for standing orders, as the holdings for these are not uniform throughout the system.

Documentation, Incorporated, stamped an access number on each card processed, and thereafter, all references to that card for additions, deletions, changes and corrections are to be made by the use of that number.

Results so far point to great success for the book catalog project, and other library systems can now look to Baltimore County Library for guidance in the installation of their own book catalogs.

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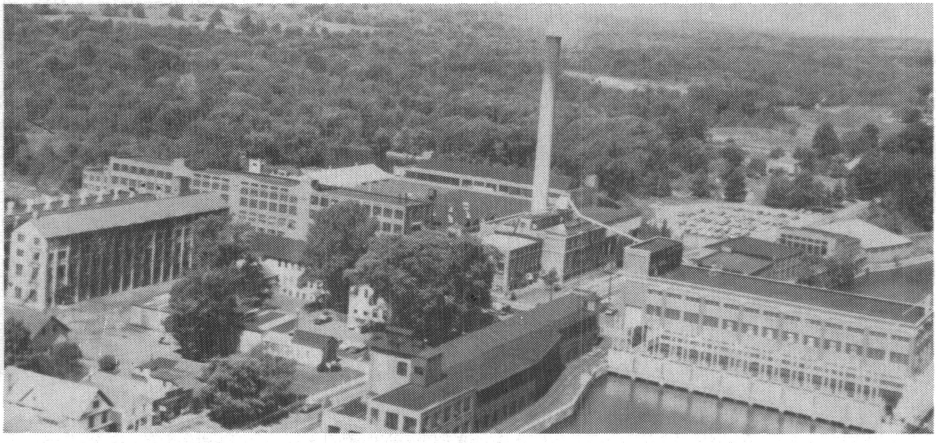

COLUMBIA MILLS EXPANDS

The Columbia Mills, the last large commercial bleachery in upstate New York was incorporated in 1896, and engaged in the bleaching, dyeing and finishing of cotton grey cloth for a great many end uses. For many years window shade cloth was the principal product line.

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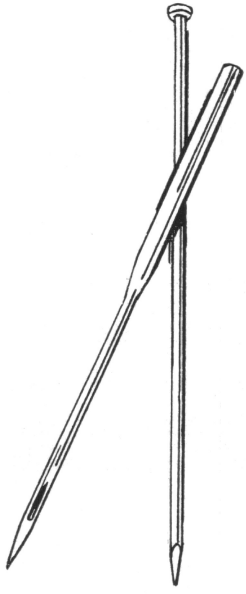

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plastics in window shades so deteriorated the market for cloth window shades, however, that the company determined in 1953 to discontinue this product line and concentrate on its other cloth finishes.

At the same time it embarked on a long range development of other fabrics and, as a first step, purchased in December 1953, the machinery, equipment and inventory of one of the country's leading manufacturers of artificial leather.

Since that time, Columbia's aim has been to enlarge its various "industrial" finishes, those products sold to other industries rather than direct to the ultimate consumers.

Columbia's largest single product line is Bookbinding Cloths and Papers. From nine brands and a few dozen colors in 1954, they have enlarged their line to include thirty brands and literally hundreds of colors. The combination of the school population explosion and the emphasis on education, added to their own efforts in styling, quality and service have made new records in this field possible for Columbia.

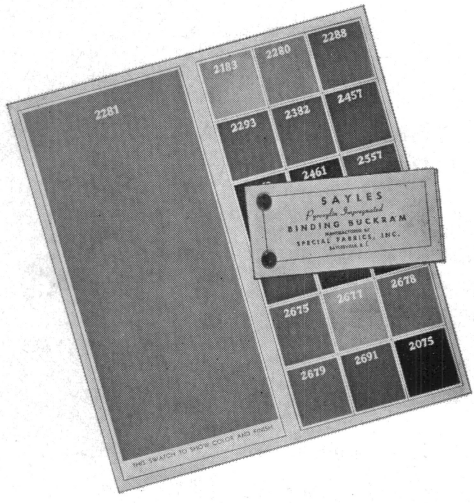
In addition to bookbinding cloths and papers, other major products include artificial leather, cable wrappings, gumming hollands, tag, tape, label sign and map cloths, and rubber hollands.

The various manufacturing processes, together with Laboratory and Engineering Department, are housed in 500,000 square feet of factory buildings in the village of Minetto, New York.

The buildings, mostly of modern construction, occupy but a part of Columbia's 101 acres of ground. A diesel-powered locomotive, railroad cars and two miles of track facilitate the movement of bulk materials around the plant. In addition, a modern steam power and electrical generating power plant makes up a part of the facilities. The three boilers have a combined capacity of over 150,000 lbs. per hour, and this power plant is capable of generating all the electrical power needed, and is, as well, tied in with the Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation facilities.

Production equipment consists of a Bleachery, Drying Ranges of different types, Coaters, Padders, Fuzers, Dyeing, Calendering and Embossing facilities, and a host of auxiliary and special equipment. While new machines and equipment are constantly being installed, much of it is designed and built by Columbia's own Engineering Department; and even when purchased from textile machinery manufacturers at home or abroad, Columbia modifies it to meet their own specific requirements.

Just recently the Columbia Mills completed the organization and construction of its new



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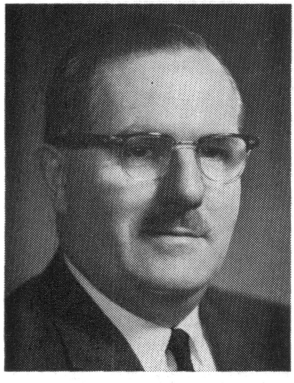
Canadian finishing and coating facility, Columbia Finishing Mills, Ltd.

The new mill is located on a five-acre plot in a new industrial park on the east side of the city of Cornwall, Ontario. The brick, one-story, fireproof building contains 30,000 square feet and has been designed for ready expansion. A boiler plant will provide process steam using natural gas as fuel.

The principal product will be a full line of book cloths; and the plant will also manufacture artificial leather, and industrial fabrics—gumming hollands, tag cloths, label cloths, sign cloths, book stay drills, stretch cambric, joint muslin and many other specialty finishes.

"In embarking on this new venture," the firm says, "Columbia Mills has recognized the extremely rapid growth of the Canadian economy and confidently expects to expand its initial facilities within the near future."



BROWN BROTHERS PROMOTES DOOGAN

Thomas B. Chipman, President, The Brown Brothers Limited, announces the appointment of William A. Doogan, Vice President in charge of Operations, effective immediately.

In addition to directing the company's manufacturing division, Mr. Doogan is now directing the co-ordination and merchandising of the multi-product range of goods and services offered by The Brown Brothers Limited.

The Brown Brothers Limited presently manufacture and wholesale a complete range of commercial stationery products and office supplies, which are sold through office supply dealers coast to coast in Canada. The production of custom catalog covers and bindings is an important adjunct to the office supply line. Recently, the company installed machinery and equipment to provide a complete service of library binding and re-binding for Institutional and Public Libraries in Canada.

NORMA GAISLER RETIRES AFTER 28 YEARS

Miss Norma Gaisler, Supervisor, St. Louis Public Library Binding Department, has retired after almost twenty-eight years of service.

For the past twenty years, as an institutional member of the Library Binding Institute, Miss Gaisler represented her library at many conventions, contributing a background of experience which had been gleaned during her years of service.

Succeeding Miss Gaisler as Supervisor is Mr. Elmer Wagenfuehr, previously foreman of the bindery.

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John F. Harvey (left,) Director, Drexel Institute of Technology Library, Philadelphia, is presented with the Library Binding Institute's Silver Book Award by Charles D. Allen of Savidge & Krimmel, also of Philadelphia.

Harold W. Tucker, Chief Librarian, Queens Borough Public Library, receives the Silver Book Award of the Library Binding Institute from Melvin B. Summerfield, Public Relations Director of LBI, at the Rotary Club luncheon at the World's Fair Hawaiian Pavilion during National Library Week. From left to right: Dr. Anthony A. Scimeca, Rotary District Governor; Mr. Summerfield; Mr. Tucker; and Borough President Mario J. Cariello.

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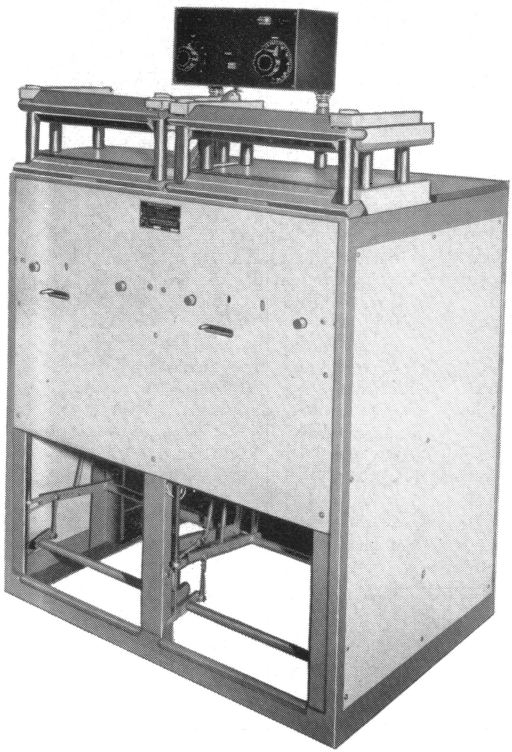

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39 COUNTRIES EXHIBIT AT BOOK FAIR*

The biggest international book fair in the world's history took place last October in Frankfurt, Germany. Almost 2400 publishing firms from 39 countries participated, including: Germany, with 791 publishers; Britain, with 279 publishers; and the United States, with 232 publishers.

The fair was literally worldwide in scope. Fully 149 publishers from Eastern Europe, of which 50 were from the Soviet Union, took part; as did publishers from almost every continent.

This year's Peace Prize of the German book trade went to the German-born poetess Nelly Sachs, who has resided in Stockholm since 1940. The citation included the following passage: "The poetic works of Nelly Sachs are a testimony to Jewish destiny in times that were inhuman, and they represent a reconciliation. . . . Her lyrics and plays are works in the German language at its best; they are works of forgiveness, of deliverance, of peace."

Best-sellers from many lands were displayed at the Fair. The Federal Republic of Germany's best-selling authors this year included an 89-year-old writer named Konrad Adenauer —first Chancellor of the free part of Germany when it became the Federal Republic in 1949 —whose published memoirs have already found at least 150,000 buyers. Another best-selling German writer is Uwe Johnson, of a much younger generation. Like other works by Johnson, his latest novel "Zwei Ansichten" (Two Views) uses Berlin and divided Germany as its background. Johnson writes from personal experience in both parts of the country.

A classic literary giant, Johann Wolfgang Goethe, is experiencing a revival this year. The Insel Verlag in Wiesbaden has made his works available in a six-volume set at a price low enough to guarantee that the world-renowned German humanist will find many new readers.

Two other new and widely-read German books are Peter Bamm's "Alexander oder die Verwandlung der Welt," which, as its title suggests, deals with the life and deeds of Alexander the Great; and Stefan Andres' recounting of the Bible.

*From *The Bulletin*—Published by The Press and Information Office of the German Federal Government.

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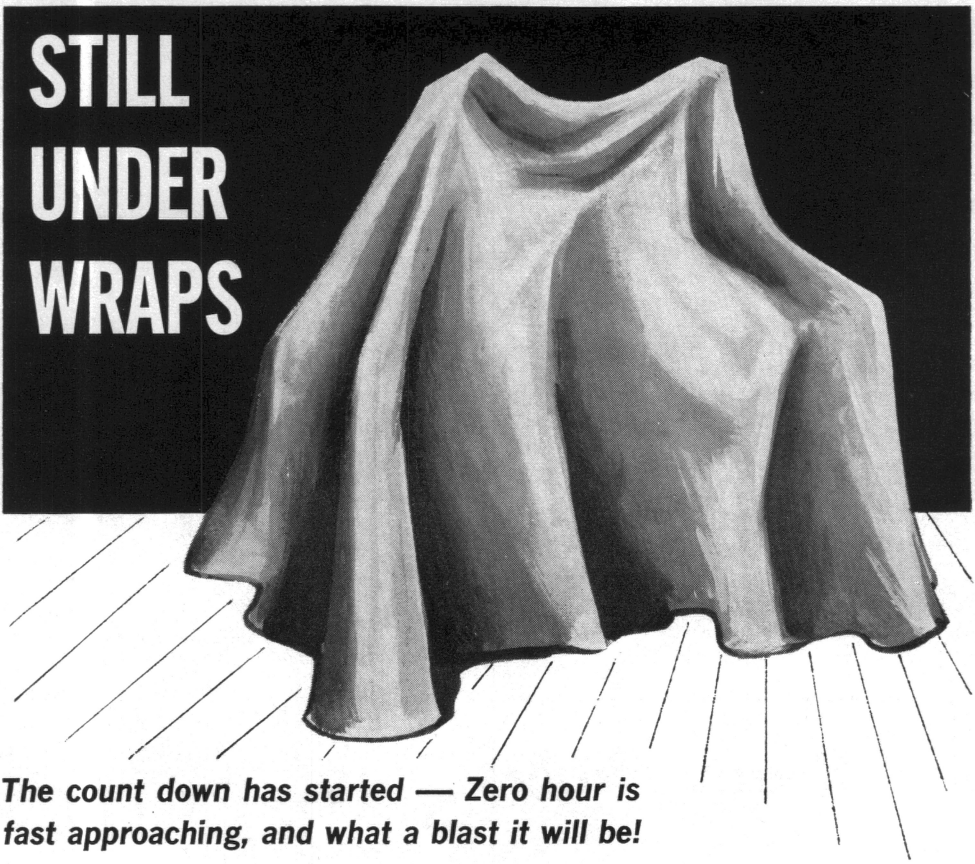

The count down has started — Zero hour is fast approaching, and what a blast it will be!

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